

Form B for Measure A3 (Page 1 of 4)
Evaluation of Legal Representation of Children
in Child Abuse and Neglect Proceedings

Judge

Case Caption: _____

Part I. Activities Performed During Representation

For the case noted above, please indicate whether the guardian ad litem (GAL) performed each of the following activities. Please place an "X" next to those activities that were performed. (If an activity is irrelevant or unnecessary for this case, place a "0" next to the activity. For example, if the child is too young to be able to talk, a "0" should be entered next to the first activity listed below. Likewise, if the child is not of school age, contacts with educational personnel are not needed. If you have insufficient information to answer a particular question, place an "I" next to the activity.)

A. Fact Finding and Investigation

Did the GAL:

- _____ Talk to the child without parents present?
- _____ Talk to the child to assess service/placement needs?
- _____ Observe parent/child interaction to assess service/placement needs?
- _____ Visit parents' home to assess service/placement needs?
- _____ Visit foster home or shelter to assess service/placement needs?

Did the GAL contact:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| _____ Caseworker? | _____ Parent's attorney? |
| _____ Parents? | _____ State's attorney? |
| _____ Relatives/other adults? | _____ Educational personnel? |
| _____ Foster parents? | _____ Medical personnel? |
| _____ Law enforcement personnel? | |

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Did the GAL seek information from:

- ☐ Police reports?
- ☐ CPS agency record?
- ☐ Child welfare records on the family?
- ☐ Court records (pleadings, petitions)?
- ☐ Medical/mental health records?
- ☐ Other records? (List: _____)

B. Activities During or Related to Court Hearings

Did the GAL:

- ☐ Subpoena necessary records not already in the file?
- ☐ Submit written reports?
- ☐ Submit oral reports?
- ☐ Offer case plan?
- ☐ Make an opening statement?
- ☐ Call lay witnesses?
- ☐ Call expert witnesses?
- ☐ Cross-examine witnesses?
- ☐ Make a closing statement?

C. Negotiations

Did the GAL:

- ☐ Attempt to bring the different parties together?
- ☐ Conduct negotiations?
- ☐ Highlight the common goals of the parties?
- ☐ Suggest options?
- ☐ Draft a written agreement?
- ☐ Other? (List: _____)

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D. Monitoring

Since the review hearing, has the GAL contacted:

- ☐ Parents/other adults in the home?
- ☐ Foster parents?
- ☐ Caseworker?
- ☐ Child welfare agency?
- ☐ Parents' attorney?
- ☐ State's attorney?
- ☐ Medical/mental health personnel?
- ☐ Educational personnel?
- ☐ Court?
- ☐ Other? (List: _____)

Part II. Overall Ratings

Please rate your overall impression of the effectiveness of the legal representation of the child in this case. (Circle the number of your response.)

	Ineffective		Effective		Very Effective
Investigation activities	1	2	3	4	5
Representation during hearings	1	2	3	4	5
Representation during negotiations	1	2	3	4	5
Monitoring activities	1	2	3	4	5

Please add your comments about the legal representation offered in this case:

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Part III. Training and Practice Issues

Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with the statements below. (Circle the number of your response.)

	Agree Strongly	Agree	Agree in Part/ Disagree in Part	Disagree	Disagree Strongly
There are clear definitions and expectations of the roles and responsibilities of GALs in this jurisdiction.	1	2	3	4	5
The training required for GALs is adequate.	1	2	3	4	5
Judges have adequate training in child welfare proceedings regarding GALs representation.	1	2	3	4	5
Standards of practice for GALs should be developed for this jurisdiction.	1	2	3	4	5
Compensation for GALs is adequate to promote effective representation.	1	2	3	4	5